

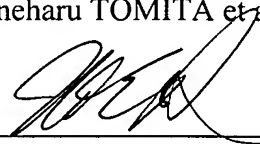
**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Tsuneharu TOMITA et al.

By



---

Nils E. Pedersen  
Registration No. 33,145  
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
May 9, 2005